

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES AND DEVELOPMENT

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**LIHEAP Service Providers Committee (LSPC) Meeting
Pruneyard Plaza Hotel, San Jose
Wednesday July 27, 2006**

Conference Call # 1-888-447-7153 – Pin # 6370133
(Please keep noise to a minimum while on the conference call)

Agenda
Time: 9:30 am – 12:30 pm

Lunch Discussion-
Disaster Preparedness Update 12:30pm-1:00pm

Chair, Dennis Osmer called the meeting to order at 9:30am and roll call was taken.

Roll Call

Southern California Forum
Community Action Partnership of Orange County
Community Resource Project, Inc.
Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission
Community Action Agency of Butte County, Inc.
Metropolitan Area Advisory Committee
Economic and Social Opportunities, Inc.
Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment
Maravilla Foundation
Ventura County Commission on Human Concerns
Veteran in Community Services
Campesinos Unidos, Inc.
Central Valley Opportunity Center, Inc.
Community Action Agency of San Mateo, Inc.
Pacific Gas & Electric
San Joaquin County, Department of Aging, Children's and Community Services
Madera County Community Action Agency
County of Riverside, Department of Community Action
Community Action Partnership of Orange County
Community Action Agency of San Mateo, Inc.
Community Action Partnership of San Bernardino County
Contra Costa County Community Services Department
Merced County Community Action Agency
Spectrum Community Services, Inc.
Redwood Community Action Agency
Kings Community Action Organization, Inc.
Community Resource Project, Inc.

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Community Services and Employment Training, Inc.
San Diego Gas & Electric
Colusa-Glenn Trinity Community Action Agency
Economic Opportunity Council of San Francisco
Community Enhancement Services
Amador-Tuolumne Community Action Agency
Community Action Partnership of San Bernardino County
Economic Opportunity Council of San Francisco, Inc.
California Human Development Corporation
Central Coast Energy Services

Conference Call line did not work – Handouts of the minutes were mailed to:

Community Action Marin
Community Action Agency of Butte County, Inc.
Community Action Partnership of Kern
Proteus, Inc.
Community Action Commission of Santa Barbara County
Community Action Board, Department of Public Social Services

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the April 19th meeting were not available and will be approved at the next meeting.

Chair Report

Dennis to provide

Director's Report

Lloyd Throne introduced himself as the new Director of Community Services & Development. He commented that he was excited to be in a position to help the agencies and to make a difference in the Department. In addition to Lloyd's opening remarks, he announced that CSD has generated a letter from the Governor to the President requesting immediate release of the remaining \$10M in ECF funds to help the thousands of Californians and others across the nation that are struggling with high temperatures, record setting energy usage and soaring energy bills. Wendy Wohl summarized the status of 2007 appropriations: LIHEAP: Both the House and Senate are at approximately the same level as 2006, not counting the additional \$500M in supplemental funds received in 2006. DOE: House approved \$254M (5% increase over 2006) and Senate approved \$204M (a 15% reduction over 2006).

LIHEAP Contract Amendment

Wendy mentioned that the contracts for the \$63 million in supplemental funds were released July 14th and extend the term of the contract through December 31, 2007. Expenditures can be submitted as soon as the contracts are signed and returned. The weatherization waiver has been submitted and we should receive HHS approval by September 1, 2007 to expend the additional 10% in weatherization funds. A discussion ensued about the proposed procurement language included within this amendment, and CSD agreed to make changes and release new language which clarifies and streamlines the procurement language.

DOE Contract

Jayson Wimbley explained that on June 21, 2006, the Department issued a correspondence memo approving the use of the LIHEAP Labor Rate for the reporting and reimbursement of DOE activity. For the 2006 DOE PY, the department will provide agencies the reimbursement options of actual cost reporting or the use of the LIHEAP Labor Rate. For the 2007 DOE program year, the department plans to modify the contract term from April 1st – January 31st to July 1 – April 30th. In addition to the term change, the department will finalize the modifications to reporting formats and systems to accommodate the full use of the LIHEAP Labor Rate under DOE. – Contractors will be limited to using the LIHEAP Labor Rate for the reporting and reimbursement of DOE activity. Effective with the 2007 PY, Contractors will no longer have the option of using the actual cost method of reimbursement.

Public Policy on Warm Weather

Dennis asked Lois to present her proposed "Hot Weather in California Resolution." Lois made a plea that the LIHEAP Providers Committee mobilize awareness and action regarding hot weather and demonstrate leadership on behalf of the most vulnerable residents in the state. CSD prepared and distributed a background paper on "Hot Weather: Issues for Community Action." See attached. An open discussion ensued related to hot weather and the crisis situation faced by vulnerable populations. Several initiatives or LIHEAP program flexibilities were discussed. CSD agreed to immediately put into place flexibilities to allow installation/loan of portable coolers, transportation to cooling centers, motel vouchers, and generators to those vulnerable/low income homes without cooling.

Lois Carson made a motion for the LIHEAP Providers Committee to send a letter to the CPUC requesting a summer initiative program to protect low income households from health hazards and high energy bills as the result of consistent hot weather. The letter should request that CPUC consider extended payment options, lowering the baseline electricity charge, and other strategies to respond to the heat crisis. Val Martinez seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Val Martinez made a motion to establish a Natural Disaster Standing Committee to pursue development of warm weather state, federal and CPUC initiatives including Lois Carson's proposed draft resolution, and to coordinate proposals to deal with warm weather issues.

Lloyd recommended we establish a Natural Disaster Standing Committee to deal with all types of disasters that occur all year round. CSD had previously established a network disaster advisory committee and it was agreed this new standing Committee would merge purposes and members. Lois Carson will chair the new Disaster Standing Committee with the following members: Cheryl Hagen, Val Martinez, Ernie Flores, Sue Briggs, Pat Nickols, Bill Warren, Kathy Kafaya, Israel Canjvea and Al Prince, John Martinez, Louise Perez and Georgina Lehne.

Solar Initiatives Discussion

Wendy provided an overview of the various solar initiatives currently underway throughout the network and an update on the current status of Assemblyman Pavely's bill that defines the solar powered energy conservation programs directed at low income dwellings. Val Martinez made a motion that the LIHEAP Committee supporting energy alternatives, expressing concern with revolving loan programs for low-income households, supporting use of the LIHEAP network for low-income solar installations, and recommending that CSD administer the low-income solar program. The motion was approved.

Energy Automation

The Energy Automation Task Force met the day before. The task force is still working diligently on the arduous task of completing the business rule requirements for the system. To further facilitate the efforts of business rule development, CSD convened a smaller subcommittee comprised of CSD and select EATF members to focus on the more technical issues, policy development/modifications, business rule concepts, and system design. This subcommittee has met on several occasions and has been very instrumental in the progression of business rule and policy development. The department is planning on hosting regional workshops to inform agencies of the department's automation efforts and associated change impacts. The training workshop sessions will be geared for program managers and other key staff, and will provide a complete overview of the automation project, tools for evaluating internal readiness (agency level), overview of policy and programmatic practice changes, internal practice change impacts, and project timelines for deployment and other key events. We anticipate hosting a total of 6 workshops tentatively scheduled for the period covering August 21, 2006 – September 8, 2006. The workshops sessions will be approximately 2-4 hours in length. We will provide additional information as our workshop plans further develop.

Association Reports

ACCES reported that energy education workshops are in full implementation and that 41,000 promotional bags have been distributed to the network. Bay Area Poverty Resource Council said they would be holding a training conference in Sept/Oct and it will focus on OMBs, Sarbanes/Oxley, and salary compensation. Southern California Forum reported that its consortium of ten CSD providers has begun its solar pilot project involving solar hot water panels and energy dedicated photovoltaic panels.

LIHEAP Meeting – 7/27/06

Page Five

Suggestions for Topics for Next Meeting

The group requested an update from the Natural Disaster Committee, a solar update, and an update on the Summer Initiative. Approval of the April 19th minutes will occur at the next meeting.

Adjournment

Dennis Osmer adjourned the meeting at 12:30pm